Last year, in response to the Indonesian Government's failure to take decisive action to punish those responsible for ordering and authorizing the November 1991 massacre in Dili, the Congress prohibited international military education and training [IMET] funds for Indonesia.

Earlier this year, Secretary of State Christopher indicated that the administration would take a fresh look at the situation in East Timor, and the administration supported a resolution in the U.N. Human Rights Commission which strongly criticized the Indonesian Government for human rights abuses. The Committee also notes that the administration has not requested any IMET funds for Indonesia for fiscal 1994.

The Committee welcomes these steps, but is concerned that the administration expects to license millions of dollars in commercial and foreign military sales of military equipment to Indonesia in fiscal 1994. The Committee urges the administration to pursue a policy toward the Indonesian Armed Forces that sends a consistent message of support for human rights. Similarly, the Committee has learned that, despite Congress' decision last year to terminate IMET for Indonesia to protest the Dili massacre, the administration apparently intends to aliow Indonesia to purchase professional military education courses through the FMS Program. The Committee would regard a decision by the administration to sell military training to Indonesia to be inconsistent with its own action not to request IMET for Indonesia in fiscal 1994 and with the intent of Congress in terminating such assistance in fiscal 1993.

The Committee urges the administration to support negotiations under U.N. auspices between Indonesia and Portugal to resolve the political status of East Timor. The Committee shares the view of the House Committee that the international community should use that forum to promote the demilitarization of East Timor, as well as a formula to enable the Timorese to participate in government through local elections in which all parties could take part.

The Committee recognizes that the Indonesian Government has taken some positive steps on human rights, including giving limited, access to the International Committee of the Red Cross, establishing a human rights committee in the Parliament, and tolerating increased public discussion of human rights. However, repression in East Timor by thousands of Indonesian troops reportedly continues unabated. According to human rights organizations, torture in detention remains common, and the human rights committee has yet to demonstrate any power. Freedom of speech and association are restricted. Prosecution for human rights abuses is rare. Reports of extrajudicial killings and arbitrary arrests continue, especially in Acheh, Irian Jaya, and East Timor.

In addition to the steps enunciated in the Committee's report last year concerning the November 1991 massacre, the Committee urges the Government of Indonesia to establish centralized public registers of detainees and ensure that detainees receive prompt access to lawyers and family members.

While the Committee supports the goals of AID's development assistance program in Indonesia, it is concerned about reports that

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Indonesia plans to spend three-quarters of a billion dollars for military aircraft from a British manufacturer at the same time that it seeks United States assistance for economic and social development. The Committee requests the administration to carefully consider Indonesia's military expenditures in making decisions about allocating bilateral economic assistance to that country. With such funds significantly reduced because of budgetary constraints, the administration should not provide economic and development assistance to nations which waste their own national funds on unnecessary military expenditures.

Polytechnical school.—The Committee is concerned that too little of our assistance to Indonesia is aimed at improving the lives of the people of East Timor, where in 1990 only 13 percent completed primary school. The Committee is particularly concerned about the lack of economic opportunities for East Timorese youth, and believes that the polytechnical school in Didi can play an important role in addressing this problem. The Committee urges AID to provide assistance to the polytechnical school to promote educational opportunities and job training. In implementing this program, AID is encouraged to consult with the Catholic Church in East Timor, which has worked extensively with the polytechnical school in the past.

Support for independent union activity.—As stated elsewhere in this report, the Committee believes that independent trade unions can play an important role in promoting democracy, and is concerned that the Indonesian Government has only allowed an organization which it controls, the All Indonesian Workers Union [SPSI] and its subsidiary bodies, to legally represent workers there. The Committee encourages AID to provide assistance for technical support to organizations that are seeking to function as independent trade unions as an alternative to the SPSI. AID is encouraged to work with U.S. independent trade union organizations in implementing this program.

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